

Appln. No. 10/019,400
Amdt. dated May 27, 2005
Reply to Office Action of November 30, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

The following list supersedes all prior listings of the claims:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A patch package adapted for receiving a pharmaceutical patch comprising:

(a) a first sheet consisting of:

 a first moisture-permeable material layer comprising a first resin and having a moisture permeability of 40-120 g/m²/day;

 a first screen material layer that is comprised of two layers for blocking penetration of moisture and light; and

 a first hygroscopic material layer located between the first moisture-permeable material layer and the first screen material layer and comprising a first resin containing 20-40 wt% of inorganic filler; and

(b) a second sheet consisting of:

 a second moisture-permeable material layer comprising a second resin and having a moisture permeability of 40-120 g/m²/day, the second moisture-permeable layer facing the first moisture-permeable material layer;

 a second screen material layer that is comprised of two layers for blocking penetration of moisture and light; and

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a second hygroscopic material layer located between the second moisture-permeable material layer and the second screen material layer and comprising a second resin containing 20-40 wt% of inorganic filler;

wherein the first moisture-permeable layer and the second moisture-permeable layer being directly in contact with each other at peripheral areas thereof and fixed to each other at the peripheral areas by heat sealing to form a package shape, and

at the peripheral areas, the first hygroscopic material layer and the second hygroscopic material layer are located, respectively, between the first moisture-permeable material layer and the first screen material layer, and between the second moisture-permeable material layer and the second screen material layer.

Claim 2 (previously presented): A patch package according to claim 1, wherein said first resin and the second resin are low density polyethylene, and the two layers that form the screen material layer are a metal foil layer and a high density polyethylene layer.

Claim 3 (previously presented): A patch package according to claim 2, wherein the thickness of the hygroscopic material layer is 20-40 μm , the thickness of the moisture-permeable material layer is 5 -15 μm , the thickness of the high-density polyethylene layer composing the screen material layer is 10-30 μm and

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the thickness of the metal foil composing the screen material layer is 5-15 μm .

Claim 4 (previously presented): A patch package according to claim 1, wherein the heat seal strength is from 1.0 kg/25 mm to 5.0 kg/25 mm.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A packaged patch comprising:
a patch having a support and a pressure-sensitive adhesive laminated on the support;

a patch package comprising;

(a) a first sheet consisting of:

a first moisture-permeable material layer comprising a first resin and having a moisture permeability of 40-120 $\text{g}/\text{m}^2/\text{day}$;
a screen material layer that is comprised of two layers for blocking penetration of moisture and light; and

a first hygroscopic material layer located between the first moisture-permeable material layer and the first screen material layer and comprising a first resin containing 20-40 wt% of inorganic filler; and

(b) a second sheet consisting of:

a second moisture-permeable material layer comprising a second resin and having a moisture permeability of 40-120 $\text{g}/\text{m}^2/\text{day}$, the second moisture-permeable layer facing the first moisture-permeable material layer;

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a second screen material layer that is comprised of two layers for blocking penetration of moisture and light; and

a second hygroscopic material layer located between the second moisture-permeable material layer and the second screen material layer and comprising a second resin containing 20-40 wt% of inorganic filler;

the first moisture-permeable layer and the second moisture-permeable layer being directly in contact with each other at peripheral areas thereof and fixed to each other at the peripheral areas by heat sealing to form a package shape,

wherein the pressure-sensitive adhesive is composed mainly of a styrene-isoprene-styrene blocked copolymer, wherein the total surface area of the interior of the patch package is 1.2-10 times the effective area of said patch, and wherein said patch is in said package, and

at the peripheral areas, the first hygroscopic material layer and the second hygroscopic material layer are located, respectively, between the first moisture-permeable material layer and the first screen material layer, and between the second moisture-permeable material layer and the second screen material layer.

Claims 6 - 12 canceled.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A patch package adapted and configured to receive a pharmaceutical patch comprising a first sheet and a second sheet, wherein each sheet consists of:

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- (a) a first layer being a moisture-permeable material layer, said first layer comprising a first resin and having a moisture permeability of 40-120 g/m²/day;
- (b) a second layer being a hygroscopic material layer that comprises a second resin containing 20-40 wt% of inorganic filler; and
- (c) a third layer and a fourth layer forming a screen material layer for blocking penetration of moisture and light,

wherein the moisture-permeable layers of said first sheet and said second sheet being directly in contact with each other at peripheral areas thereof and fixed to each other at the peripheral areas by heat sealing so as to form a package shape, and

at the peripheral areas, the respective hygroscopic material layers of said first sheet and said second sheet are located between the respective moisture-permeable material layers and screen material layers of the respective sheets.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A packaged patch comprising a pharmaceutical patch having a support and a pressure-sensitive adhesive laminated on the support within a patch package that comprises a first sheet and a second sheet, wherein each sheet consists of:

- (a) a first layer being a moisture-permeable material layer, said first layer comprising a first resin and having a moisture permeability of 40-120 g/m²/day;
- (b) a second layer being a hygroscopic material layer that comprises a second resin containing 20-40 wt% of inorganic filler; and
- (c) a third layer and a fourth layer forming a screen material layer for blocking penetration of moisture and light,

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wherein the moisture-permeable layers of said first sheet and said second sheet being directly in contact with each other at peripheral areas thereof and fixed to each other at the peripheral areas by heat sealing so as to form a package shape, wherein the total surface area of the interior of the patch package is 1.2-10 times the effective area of said patch, and

at the peripheral areas, the respective hygroscopic material layers of said first sheet and said second sheet are located between the respective moisture-permeable material layers and screen material layers of the respective sheets.

Claim 15 (previously presented): A packaged patch according to claim 14, wherein the pressure sensitive adhesive is compound mainly of a styrene blocked copolymer.

Claim 16 (previously presented): A packaged patch according to claim 14, wherein said pharmaceutical patch contains eperisone, estradiol or its derivatives, dantrolene, diclofenac sodium or scopolamine.

Claim 17 (previously presented): A packaged patch according to claim 14, wherein said pharmaceutical patch contains at least one drug selected from the group consisting of antiemetics, polakisuria agents, Ca antagonists, corticosteroids, anti-inflammatory analgesics, hypnotic analgesics, neuroleptics, antihypertensive agents, hypotensive diuretics, antibiotics, antibacterial agents, vitamins, antitussives, antidepressants, cerebral circulation ameliorants, anticancer agents, muscle relaxants, analgesics, immunoregulators, choleretic

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agents, smoking cessation aides, agents for diabetics, gout treatment agents, antiparkinson agents, antivertigo agents and antispasmodics.

Claim 18 (new): A patch package according to claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutical patch contains at least one drug selected from the group consisting of antiemetics, polakisuria agents, Ca antagonists, corticosteroids, anti-inflammatory analgesics, hypnotic analgesics, neuroleptics, antihypertensive agents, hypotensive diuretics, antibiotics, antibacterial agents, vitamins, antitussives, antidepressants, cerebral circulation ameliorants, anticancer agents, muscle relaxants, analgesics, immunoregulators, choleric agents, smoking cessation aides, agents for diabetics, gout treatment agents, antiparkinson agents, antivertigo agents and antispasmodics.

Claim 19 (new): A packaged patch according to claim 13, wherein the pharmaceutical patch contains at least one drug selected from the group consisting of antiemetics, polakisuria agents, Ca antagonists, corticosteroids, anti-inflammatory analgesics, hypnotic analgesics, neuroleptics, antihypertensive agents, hypotensive diuretics, antibiotics, antibacterial agents, vitamins, antitussives, antidepressants, cerebral circulation ameliorants, anticancer agents, muscle relaxants, analgesics, immunoregulators, choleric agents, smoking cessation aides, agents for diabetics, gout treatment agents, antiparkinson agents, antivertigo agents and antispasmodics.

Claim 20 (new): A patch package adapted for receiving a pharmaceutical patch comprising:

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(a) a first sheet consisting of:

 a first moisture-permeable material layer comprising a first resin and having a moisture permeability of 40-120 g/m²/day;

 a first screen material layer that is comprised of two layers for blocking penetration of moisture and light; and

 a first hygroscopic material layer located between the first moisture-permeable material layer and the first screen material layer and comprising a first resin containing 20-40 wt% of inorganic filler; and

(b) a second sheet consisting of:

 a second moisture-permeable material layer comprising a second resin and having a moisture permeability of 40-120 g/m²/day, the second moisture-permeable layer facing the first moisture-permeable material layer;

 a second screen material layer that is comprised of two layers for blocking penetration of moisture and light; and

 a second hygroscopic material layer located between the second moisture-permeable material layer and the second screen material layer and comprising a second resin containing 20-40 wt% of inorganic filler;

wherein the first moisture-permeable layer and the second moisture-permeable layer being directly in contact with each other at peripheral areas thereof and sealed to each other at the peripheral areas to form a package shape, and

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at the peripheral areas, the first hygroscopic material layer and the second hygroscopic material layer are located, respectively, between the first moisture-permeable material layer and the first screen material layer, and between the second moisture-permeable material layer and the second screen material layer.

Claim 21 (new): A patch package according to claim 20, wherein the first moisture-permeable layer and the second moisture-permeable layer are sealed to each other by heat sealing at the peripheral areas thereof.

Claim 22 (new): A patch package according to claim 20, wherein the pharmaceutical patch contains at least one drug selected from the group consisting of antiemetics, polakisuria agents, Ca antagonists, corticosteroids, anti-inflammatory analgesics, hypnotic analgesics, neuroleptics, antihypertensive agents, hypotensive diuretics, antibiotics, antibacterial agents, vitamins, antitussives, antidepressants, cerebral circulation ameliorants, anticancer agents, muscle relaxants, analgesics, immunoregulators, choleretic agents, smoking cessation aides, agents for diabetics, gout treatment agents, antiparkinson agents, antivertigo agents and antispasmodics.